

Wild/Feral Horse and Burro Solutions

Supporting Sustainable Rangelands

Statistics:

- Range will support 26,500 horses/burros
- Currently 49,200 + horses/burros on the range
- Currently 47,195 horses in holding facilities
- Horse Population increases on an average of 20% per year
- BLM has stopped removing excess horses from the range except by court order and for emergency purposes (horse dying of thirst, horse being hit on highways, etc.)



Program Expenditures: (based on information provided to Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board)

- FY 2012: \$74 million budget with \$43 million in holding costs
- FY 2013: \$76.1 million expenditures - \$46.2 million in holding costs
- FY 2015: \$80 million budget - \$47.8+ million in holding costs

We must:

- Protect and manage 26,500 horses and burros that the range will sustain
- Ensure a thriving natural ecological balance while balancing the multiple-uses of our public lands
- Make wise use of our natural resources and taxpayer money

We cannot:

- Afford to jeopardize this Country's rangeland health by allowing the overpopulation of any species
- Afford \$47+ Million per year to feed and care for nearly 50,000 horses in holding facilities
- Ignore the laws – Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971, The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978, etc.



Statement of the Bureau of Land Management on the Government Accountability Office's 2008 Report:

"The GAO report correctly notes that the BLM has limited options for dealing with unadopted and unsold animals within its finite budget. One option is to humanely put down animals for which no adoption demand exists, as directed by the 1978 amendments to the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act; another option is to sell "without limitation" horses older than 10 and those younger that have been passed over for adoption at least three times, as directed by a December 2004 amendment to the 1971 law. The GAO

recommends -- and the Department of the Interior and the BLM agree -- that the Bureau should initiate discussions with Congress on addressing the BLM's noncompliance with these directives in the 1971 law, as amended."

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/newsroom/2008/november/NR_10_11_2008.html



White River & Douglas Creek Conservation Districts

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